

Erin Smith Aebel

Shareholder

Tampa

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Overview

Widely recognized in the health care industry, Erin is a board certified health law specialist by the Florida Bar and she is the 2016 LexologyClient Choice Award Winner, nominated by clients and awarded for excellent client service in health law in the state of Florida.

Physicians, hospitals, physician group practices, diagnostic imaging centers, pharmacies, clinical laboratories, medical spas, concierge medical practices, and other health care providers in business law look to Erin for representation in a wide range of matters. Her more than 20 years of experience, paired with her desire to help people, has enabled Erin to successfully represent clients in a wide range of matters, including Stark law, fraud and abuse, acquisitions and changes of ownership, and Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), and licensure issues arising from joint ventures. She regularly prepares and negotiates hospital related agreements, physician employment agreements, medical director agreements, and licensure and scope of practice issues. Additionally, Erin advises on a variety of Florida health law issues including the developing cannabis law.

With a passion to share knowledge, Erin frequently speaks throughout the country and writes on health care topics. She has been published by the American Health Lawyers Association.

Erin enjoys meeting people of all backgrounds, giving back to the community, and participating in social and political activism, particularly initiatives that raise the status of women.

Representative Matters

- Represented a not for profit hospital in the sale of its assets to a for-profit hospital system and assist in the creation and operational advice of a community foundation resulting from the hospital sale proceeds.
- Represented multiple health care provider entities and an ambulatory surgery center in their combination into a single entity with a management company which includes venture capital funds.
- Assisted a physician group with Stark compliance guidance and analysis of an overpayment claim and advice on repayment pursuant to the Stark Self Disclosure Protocol.
- Assisted a podiatry group with HIPAA and state law breach notifications and accompanying government investigation from a data breach involving more than 500 individuals.
- Assisted a newly built hospital with all of its facility and services licensure applications.

Honors and Distinctions

- *Tampa Magazine's Top Lawyers List*, 2016, 2019, 2021-2026
- *The Best Lawyers in America*, Health Care Law, 2019-2020, 2022-2026
- *Florida Trend*
 - Legal Elite Notable: Women Leaders in Law, 2025



Alternate Contact

Linda M. Dowell
Legal Assistant
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Practice Areas

- Health Care
- Business Transactions
- Corporate Mergers and Acquisitions
- Private Equity and Venture Capital

Education

- J.D., *cum laude*, Loyola University School of Law, 1996
- B.S., *magna cum laude*, Loyola University, 1993

Admissions

- Florida
- United States District Court, Middle District of Florida

- Legal Elite, 2021-2022
- *Florida Super Lawyers*, Health Care, 2008-2014, 2017-2026
- *Lexology Client Choice Award*, 2016
- *Tampa Bay Business Journal Businesswoman of the Year - Legal Services*, 2014
- AV Peer Review Rated by Martindale-Hubbell
- *Loyola Law School Phelps Dunbar* scholarship and the *Warren E. Mouldoux Editor-In-Chief's* award for outstanding law review dedication and service.

Professional Involvement

- The Florida Bar, Health Care Law Certification Grade Review Panel, 2021
- The Florida Bar, Executive Counsel to Health Law Section, 2011-2014
- The Florida Bar, Health Law Certification Committee, Chair, 2013-2019, 2024
- Hillsborough Association of Women Lawyers, Member
- Hillsborough County Bar Health Law Section, Former Co-Chair

Community Involvement

- Equality Florida, Steering Committee
- Hillsborough County Medical Association, Inc., Partnership, 2021-2025
- USF Finance Corporation & USF Property Corporation
 - Chair, 2022
 - Secretary-Treasurer, 2022
 - Board of Directors, 2021
- Florida Museum of Photographic Arts, Board of Directors, 2023-2024
- Artspace Tampa Initiative, Steering Committee
- Brain Expansions Scholastic Training, Inc., Pro Bono General Counsel
- Brain Expansions Scholastic Training, Inc., Former Board of Directors
- Crisis Center of Tampa Bay, Board of Directors, 2019-2023
- Ruths List State Advisory Board
- Athena Society, Member
- Krewe of Cavaliers
 - Kort, Knight Counselor, 2023
- American Diabetes Association Tampa Bay
 - Former Chair of Community Leadership Board
 - Former Walk Chair for the Step Out to Stop Diabetes Walk
- Planned Parenthood of Southwest and Central Florida, Former Board of Directors
- St. Petersburg Museum of Fine Arts, Former Board of Directors
- Suncoast Health Care Executives, Former President

Thought Leadership

- Panelist, "The Carrot and the Stick: The Legal Implications of Incentivizing Physician Employee Loyalty," American Health Law Association's Annual Meeting & In-House Counsel Program, June 2026
- Co-Author, "[Navigating HIPPA Compliance with AI](#)," *Healthcare Business Today*, April 2026
- "[Medicolegal Concerns in Contemporary Private GI Practice](#)," *Medscape Medical News*, written by Diana Swift & Camille Thlin, MD, MSc, September 2025
- Podcast guest, "[Cosmetic Medicine: Legal and Compliance Issues](#)," *American Health Law Association's Speaking of Health Law*, July 2025
- Panelist, Federal Bar Association Summer Camp Professional Attire Panel, June 2025
- Author, "[Medicolegal Risks in Gastroenterology: Present and Emerging Concerns](#)," *Clinical Gastroenterology and Hepatology*, American Gastroenterology Association (AGA) Institute, April 2025
- Panelist, CSL Therapy Body Altering Aesthetics Conference, March 2025
- Panelist, Hillsborough Association for Women Lawyers (HAWL) Membership Luncheon, November 2024
- Speaker, "Navigating, Networking, and Negotiating Your First Job Workshop," National Conference of the American College Gastroenterology (ACG), October 2024
- "[My Physician's Office Received a Civil Investigative Demand from the Federal Government? What do I do Next?](#)" *Trenam News*, September 2024

- Speaker, Women in Heart Failure Collaborative Conversation Series, February 2024
- Speaker, "Navigating, Networking and Negotiating Your First Job Workshop," American College of Gastroenterology (ACG) Women in GI Commitment, October 2023
- "Top Legal Issues for APRNs," Speaker, The Health Law Section of The Florida Bar CLE, September 2023
- "Pressure Points in GI Practice Management: Mistakes and Threats," Speaker, American College of Gastroenterology (ACG) Practice Management Summit, October 2022
- "Recent Legislative and Regulatory Updates," Speaker, American Board of Quality Assurance and Utilization Review Physicians (ABQAURP) Annual Conference, October 2022
- Speaker, American Health Law Association's Fraud and Compliance Forum, September 2022
- Speaker, "Negotiating Contracts - Finding the Wiggle Room," USF Residents, September 2022
- Speaker, "Health Law Basics," American Association of Physicians of Indian Origin Young Physicians Section (APPI YPS), 2022
- Speaker, "Navigating the Nuances of the Health Care Clinic Act," Representing the Physician Stetson Tampa Law Center, January 2022
- Author, "[Legal Perspectives, Health Care Special Report](#)," *Florida Trend*, April 2021
- "[After a Breach Is Too Late: Ensure BA, Subcontractor Compliance Now](#)," Health Care Compliance Association, March 2021
- "[Erin Smith Aebel Discusses How Best to Proceed with Patients After Traumatic Event in Doctor's Office](#)," Part B News, February 2021
- "Increased Patient Access under the 21st Century Cures Act: What it Means for Providers and Why They Need a HIPAA Compliance Checkup Now," Speaker, Foundation for Orthopedic Research & Education's Virtual National Conference, November 2020